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Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 64

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/49/701)]

- 49/77. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

A

Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the annual report of the Disarmament Commission, 1/

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993 and 48/77 A of 16 December 1993,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Noting the various suggestions for possible consideration by the Disarmament Commission, at an appropriate future date, including in particular

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/49/42).

the one for reconsideration of the subject "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields",

1. Takes note of the annual report of the Disarmament Commission; 1/
2. Notes with regret that the Disarmament Commission was unable to achieve agreement on guidelines and recommendations under its the agenda item entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields", consideration of which was concluded in 1994;
3. Notes the continuing consideration by the Disarmament Commission of its agenda item entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons", which is to be concluded in 1995;
4. Notes also that the Disarmament Commission held a preliminary exchange of views on its agenda item entitled "International arms transfers, with particular reference to General Assembly resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991";
5. Reaffirms the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;
6. Reaffirms also the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;
7. Encourages the Disarmament Commission to continue to make every effort to enhance its working methods so as to enable it to give focused consideration to a limited number of priority issues in the field of disarmament, bearing in mind the decision it has taken to move its agenda towards a three-item phased approach;
8. Requests the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/ and with paragraph 3 of resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission"; 3/
9. Recommends that the Disarmament Commission, at its 1994 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 1995 substantive session:

2/ Resolution S-10/2.

3/ A/CN.10/137 of 27 April 1990.

(a) Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons;

(b) International arms transfers, with particular reference to General Assembly resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991;

10. Also recommends that, pursuant to the adopted three-item phased approach, the Disarmament Commission, at its 1994 organizational session, consider including in the agenda of its 1995 substantive session a new third item and, in this context, notes, inter alia, the following proposals: "General guidelines for non-proliferation, with special emphasis on weapons of mass destruction" and "Review of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade";

11. Requests the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1995 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament, 4/ together with all the official records of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

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15 December 1994

B

Expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament, 4/

Conscious of the need for a comprehensive approach to the disarmament process and for improved functioning and efficiency of the multilateral arms control and disarmament machinery, as also envisaged in the report of the Secretary-General on new dimensions of arms regulation and disarmament in the post-cold-war era, 5/

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/49/27).

5/ A/C.1/47/7.

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 48/77 B of 16 December 1993, concerning, inter alia, the ongoing review by the Conference on Disarmament of its agenda, composition and methods of work, which highlighted the need for substantial enlargement of the present membership of the Conference,

Fully convinced that an enlarged membership is desirable in order to take advantage of the current propitious international climate to negotiate, on the solid basis of a more representative participation, a comprehensive test-ban treaty and other important agreements requiring universal adherence,

Recalling that the Conference on Disarmament, which is funded from the regular budget, was granted, pursuant to resolution 48/77 B, supplementary administrative, substantive and conference support services, inter alia, in anticipation of its expansion,

Recalling also its resolution 1722 (XVI) of 20 December 1961 regarding the establishment of the Conference on Disarmament, then the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,

Emphasizing the fact that, notwithstanding dramatic changes in the international situation and continuous consultations, there has been no expansion of the membership of the Conference during the last fifteen years,

Welcoming the fact that the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament reflects the intention of the Conference to reinstate its own procedures providing for periodic review of its composition,

Regretting, however, that the Conference on Disarmament did not reach a consensus that would result in the expansion of its membership before the start of the 1994 session of the Conference, as urged by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/77 B, nor was it able to resolve this question thereafter, in spite of intensive efforts by the Friend of the Chair,

1. Recognizes the legitimate aspirations of the candidate countries to participate fully in the work of the Conference on Disarmament;

2. Recalls the report of 12 August 1993 of the Special Coordinator for membership designated by the Conference on Disarmament ^{6/} and the subsequent statement made by the Special Coordinator on 26 August 1993, ^{7/} recommending a dynamic solution to the question of membership, as well as the report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 1994 session;

3. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to make every effort to reach a solution resulting, by the beginning of 1995, in a significant expansion of its composition, which would then include at least sixty countries.

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C

^{6/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/48/27), para. 13 (incorporating document CD/1214).

^{7/} Ibid., para. 14.

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament, 4/

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Considering, in this respect, that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching concrete agreements,

Welcoming the ongoing negotiations of the Conference on Disarmament on a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty,

Noting with satisfaction the results achieved so far on the subject of improved and effective functioning of the Conference on Disarmament, as well as the decision to carry out consultations with a view to achieving consensus on the issue of its membership by the beginning of its 1995 session and the decision to continue consultations on the issue of the agenda at its 1995 session,

Recognizing that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important areas for negotiations,

1. Reaffirms the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;
2. Welcomes the determination of the Conference on Disarmament to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items of its agenda;
3. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to continue as a priority task its negotiations to conclude a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;
4. Notes the recommendation of the Conference on Disarmament that the balance of its future work be considered more fully by the Conference before it decides which ad hoc committees, besides the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban, should be established in 1995;
5. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to make every effort to reach a solution on the expansion of its membership by the beginning of its 1995 session;
6. Encourages the ongoing review of the agenda, membership and methods of work of the Conference on Disarmament;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision, to the Conference on Disarmament, of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;
8. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

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9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

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D

Implementation of the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/78 H of 7 December 1988, in which it endorsed the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level, and its resolution 47/54 D, adopted without a vote on 9 December 1992,

Noting that since then national reports on the implementation of the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures have been submitted by a number of Member States belonging to different geographic regions,

Reconfirming its support for the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level,

Recalling that the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security, as endorsed by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, refer, inter alia, to confidence- and security-building measures in the context of maintaining and enhancing regional peace and security,

Welcoming progress at the global level in the promotion of transparency in the military field as a cornerstone for confidence-building, through the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, introduced by its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, the endorsement of the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, contained in its resolution 47/54 B of 9 December 1992, and the establishment of the Register of Conventional Arms under its resolution 46/36 L of 9 December 1991,

Noting with satisfaction the encouraging results of specific confidence-building measures agreed upon and implemented in some regions which foster mutual trust and understanding, defuse tensions and promote friendly relations among States,

Welcoming, in particular, the establishment of regional mechanisms, institutions or forums entrusted with the prevention and peaceful settlement of conflicts, and the development of confidence-building measures,

Recognizing the value of regional workshops, seminars and conferences on regional confidence-building and security, contributing to regional disarmament and security,

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Reaffirming the great importance of increasing security and stability in all regions through appropriate measures to strengthen international peace and security,

Realizing with deep concern, however, that tensions in some regions rise and that even violent armed conflicts have erupted and continue, in some cases, despite all peacemaking and peace-keeping efforts,

Emphasizing that confidence-building measures, especially when applied in a comprehensive manner, can be conducive to achieving structures of security based on cooperation and openness and thus contribute to the wider objective of the renunciation of the threat or use of force,

1. Stresses the need for the development and implementation of confidence-building measures as a concrete means to facilitate the disarmament and arms limitation process and to improve the prospects for the peaceful settlement of disputes, thus contributing to maintaining and enhancing regional and international peace and security;

2. Recommends the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures to all States for implementation, taking fully into account the specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region;

3. Also recommends to all States and regions that have already started to implement confidence-building measures to pursue further and strengthen this process;

4. Appeals to all States to consider the widest possible use of confidence-building measures in their international relations, including bilateral, regional and global activities, as an important step towards prevention of conflict and, in times of political tension and crisis, as an instrument for peaceful settlement of conflicts;

5. Calls upon, in particular, all States in whose regions military tensions exist, or armed conflicts occur, to make the best possible use of confidence-building measures, among other appropriate activities and if needed in cooperation with other States, to ease tensions and to contribute to peacemaking and peace-building;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to continue to collect relevant information from all Member States;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "Confidence-building measures".

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